

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 6 are amended. The amendments introduce no new matter because they are supported by at least paragraph [0038] of the specification, as originally filed. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Schechter in the November 8, 2005 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, objects to claim 2 for an informality. Claim 2 is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to claim 2 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 5, rejects claims 1, and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,148,301 to Sawatsubashi et al. (hereinafter "Sawatsubashi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,285,301 to Shirahashi et al. (hereinafter "Shirahashi"). The Office Action, in paragraph 6, rejects claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawatsubashi in view of Shirahashi as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,506,705 to Yamamoto et al (hereinafter "Yamamoto 1"). The Office Action, in paragraph 7, rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawatsubashi in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/112403 to Ino. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Sawatsubashi teaches a liquid crystal display device having a driving circuit inside the seal boundary (see Fig. 3). The Office Action, in paragraph 7, recognizes that Sawatsubashi does not disclose a light shielding film on the counter substrate, which is in a non-overlapping arrangement with at least one of the peripheral driving circuit and wiring lines, but rather relies on Shirahashi as allegedly disclosing such a feature. Embodiments of the Shirahashi

device are directed to providing a liquid crystal display device wherein the likelihood of breakage of the outermost signal lines is greatly reduced (col. 1, lines 61-65). This is accomplished in embodiments of the Shirahashi device by disposing a dummy line outside the outermost signal line which may include a dummy pixel outside the outermost pixel, the dummy pixel then being masked by a light blocking film (BM) (col. 1, lines 66 - col. 2, line 11).

Claims 1, and in like manner independent claims 2 and 6, are amended to recite, among other features, an active matrix substrate having on the same plane a plurality of scanning lines, a plurality of signal lines provided to intersect the scanning lines, a plurality of pixel electrodes provided at the intersection portions of the scanning lines and the signal lines, a peripheral driving circuit to matrix drive the pixel electrodes, and wiring lines for supplying signals to the peripheral driving circuit, the peripheral driving circuit including a sample hold circuit with thin film transistors each having a channel region, and a seal that forms a sealed region between the active matrix substrate and the counter substrate, the sample hold circuit of the peripheral driving circuit being disposed completely within the sealed region and the wiring being disposed at least partially within the seal, and wherein both the common electrode and the light shielding film are in a non-overlapping arrangement with both the peripheral driving circuit and the wiring lines in plan view.

Neither Sawatsubashi nor Shirahashi, nor a combination of these references, teaches, or would have suggested, this specific combination of features. Additionally, dependent claims 5 and 7 incorporate all of the features of independent claim 1, and as such, are neither anticipated, nor would they have been suggested, by the combination of applied references for at least the respective dependence of these claims on independent claim 1, as well as for the separately patentable features that each of these claims recites. Further, neither Yamamoto nor Ino overcomes the shortfall in the application of Sawatsubashi and Shirahashi to at least

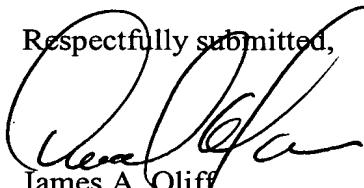
independent claim 1. As such, the combinations of the applied references cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of all of the features recited in at claims 2-4 for at least their respective dependence on independent claim 1, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over any combination of the applied references are respectfully requested.

Applicant's representative presented the above claim amendments and arguments to Examiner Schechter in the November 8 personal interview. The Examiner indicated that he understood the details of the structure recited in claims 1, 2 and 6, as amended. The Examiner further indicated that he would carefully review Applicant's claim amendments and arguments upon submission of a formal reply to the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-7 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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